

(DID NOT GET VOTED ON, BILL WAS TABLED)

BILL: **Community Standards in Public Events**

SPONSOR: **Hannah Pustejovsky, Junior Senator**

DATE: **March 3, 2017**

Whereas the Middlebury College Community Standards states a commitment to a “balance of individual and community health and growth”, and outlines a need for “respect and responsibility for self, others, and our shared environment”,

Whereas, the Community Standards also are committed to “fostering a diverse and inclusive community committed to civility, open-mindedness and finding common ground”,

Whereas students of Middlebury College deserve access to credible, authentic, and worthwhile discussions representing many viewpoints,

Whereas the academic departments and campus student organizations should be held to the same standards that we hold our community to,

Whereas we are dedicated to protecting the right to free speech, and to condemn hate speech that violate our community standards,

Whereas the SGA supports the right of students to use their right to protest,

Whereas the SGA condemns any use of violence against a member of our community, including physical and emotional violence,

Whereas we the SGA, stand with all members of our community who feel ostracized and unsupported by the community they should feel comfortable in,

Whereas the Middlebury Community does not exist in a bubble, and hate speech and false ideas have a lasting impact on every member of this community,

Therefore, be it resolved...

That the SGA recommends that Middlebury College should require all departments to respect the boundaries of the College’s community standards when inviting speakers, holding forums, hosting events, and adding discourse to the general Middlebury community.

That the SGA recommends that student organizations should also be held to the same standards as the departments, in order to create a better learning environment for their appeals.

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That the SGA recommends that Middlebury College should create an appeals process through which students can voice their dissent and disapproval of speakers, forums, and public events that violate community standards, in order to create a system of checks and balances.

Respectfully submitted,

Hannah Pustejovsky, Junior Senator